

## REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

New claim 35 corresponds to a claim recently allowed in a corresponding European application (rewritten according to U.S. method claim style).

Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 4 has been amended to depend from new claim 35 which provides antecedent basis for “plastic bag”.

Claims 3-5 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant Admitted Prior Art in view of Simon (U.S. 4,880,119). This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

These claimed inventions relates to the technique for packing a glass base material which is a base material of an optical fiber. Neither the Applicant’s admitted prior art nor Simon relate to *packing* a glass base material.

There is a difference in objectives among the presently claimed inventions and these references. An objective of the inventions of our pending claims is to prevent damage to surfaces of glass base material during shipment. The cited references do not solve this problem at all and are thus, non-analogous art.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant Admitted Prior Art in view of Simon and further in view of Greminger (U.S. 4,573,578). This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

As with claims 3-5 and 34, claim 2 also relates to the technique for packing a glass base material which is a base material of an optical fiber. Neither the Applicant’s admitted prior art nor Simon relate to *packing* a glass base material.

There is a difference in objectives among the presently claimed inventions and these references. An objective of the inventions of our pending claims is to prevent damage to surfaces of glass base material during shipment. The cited references do not solve this problem at all and are thus, non-analogous art.

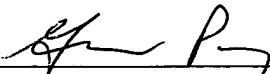
If any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17 are due in connection with this filing, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 02-4300; Order No. 034143.002.

If an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 is necessary that is not accounted for herewith, such an extension is requested. The extension fee should be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-4300; Order No. 034143.002.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By:

  
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Glenn J. Perry, Reg. No. 28,458  
1850 M Street, N.W., Suite 800  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Telephone: (202) 263-4300  
Facsimile: (202) 263-4329

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